

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 01072 271002Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 034439

O 270932Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7092

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 1072

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SECRETARY SIMON), PFOR, JO, US

SUBJECT: AIRCRAFT CLEARANCE

REF AMMAN 1051, AMMAN 1062, STATE 047686

1. APPRECIATE YOUR EXPLANATION OF ALTERNATIVE ROUTING CONTINGENCY PLANS.

2. I SAW RIFAI THIS MORNING AT KING'S RESIDENCE WHILE WAITING TO SEE KING ON ANOTHER SUBJECT: I TOLD RIFAI THAT I HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO TALK WITH HIM AGAIN ON SUBJECT OF AIRCRAFT CLEARANCE. SINCE I HAD ALREADY TOLD HIM THAT MY EARLIER APPROACH WAS BASED ON HIGH LEVEL CONSIDERATION I DID NOT REPEAT THAT POINT. I TOLD HIM THAT WE THOUGHT APPROVAL WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE MUTUALLY COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. HE TOLD ME THAT HE THOUGHT THAT WOULD BE THE CASE AS WELL EXCEPT THAT IN THIS INSTANCE WE WERE ASKING JORDAN TO DO FOR THE US WHAT SYRIA AND SAUDI ARABIA HAVE MADE CLEAR THEY WILL NOT DO -- PERMIT A DIRECT FLIGHT FROM THEIR TERRITORY TO ISRAEL. AT THE SAME TIME, HE CONTINUED, THE US DID NOT GIVE HIM ANY ROOM FOR MANEUVER IN THE SENSE THAT A SIMON STOPOVER HERE WOULD ALLOW THEM TO EXPLAIN TO SAUDIS AND SYRIANS WHY THEY SHOULD PERMIT SUCH A FLIGHT - IE ARAB HOSPITALITY REQUIRES IT. RIFAI THEN SUGGESTED TO ME FOR THE FIRST TIME THE ALTERNATIVE OF FLYING UP THE RED SEA AND GULF OF AQABA, INSISTING THAT THE ROUTING THAT WAY WAS JUST AS DIRECT, IF NOT MORE SO. I SAID THAT WE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 AMMAN 01072 271002Z

HAD WANTED TO USE THE ESTABLISHED AIRWAY FROM TABUK, TO MUDAWARRA

TO AQABA. HE REPLIED THAT NO ONE ELSE FLIES THAT WAY AND INSISTED AGAIN THAT THE USE OF THAT ROUTE PUT THEM IN A BAD POSITION WITH THEIR ARAB NEIGHBORS. HE AGAIN RAISED THE PROBLEMS NO STOP OVER IN JORDAN CAUSED THE JORDANIANS, BUT DID NOT INSIST ON THIS POINT TOO MUCH.

3 AT THE END RIFAI APOLOGIZED FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO CHANGE AND SAID HE HOPED WASHINGTON, EVEN THOUGH IT MIGHT NOT AGREE WITH HIS POSITION, WOULD UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR IT.
PICKERING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, FLIGHT CLEARANCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976AMMAN01072
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760074-0238
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976027/aaaaafla.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 AMMAN 1051, 76 AMMAN 1062, 76 STATE 47686
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 OCT 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <16 JUN 2004 by izenbei0, 3.4.X6>; RELEASED <12 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIRCRAFT CLEARANCE
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, JO, US, (SIMON, WILLIAM E)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006